

[14 December, 2006]

RAJYA SABHA

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PARANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) Under the so-called 'Agreement between China and Pakistan on the Boundary between China's Sinkiang and the contiguous areas, the defence of which is under the actual control of Pakistan' signed in March 1963, Pakistan ceded 5180 kms of Indian territory in Shaksgam valley in Pakistan Occupied Kashmir to China;

(c) and (d) Governments principled and consistent position on Jammu and Kashmir is that the entire State is an integral part of the Indian Union. A part of the territory of the State is under the forcible and illegal occupation of Pakistan. India is committed under the Simla agreement and the Lahore Declaration, to resolve all issues with Pakistan peacefully through bilateral discussions. Three rounds of talks have been held with Pakistan on Jammu and Kashmir in the framework of the Composite Dialogue. Special Representatives of India and China were appointed in June 2003 to explore the framework for a boundary settlement from the political perspective of the overall bilateral relationship. The Agreement on the Political Parameters and Guiding Principles for the Settlement of the India-China Boundary Question was signed on April 11, 2005. There have been eight meetings of the Special Representatives so far; the last was on June 25-27, 2006. Both sides agreed to continue discussions based on the Agreement signed on April 11, 2005.

Small radio stations in the country

†*340. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry had prepared a Radio Scheme to have a network of small Radio Stations in the country;

(b) if so, the details of this scheme;

(c) the total number of Radio Stations set up under this scheme; and

(d) the reasons for not much expansion of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. In December '02, the Government of India announced a policy for the grant of licenses for

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

setting up Community Radio Stations to well established educational institutions/organization, recognized by the Central Government or the State Government including the Universities and institutes of technology/ management and residential schools, At present 19 such stations are operational in various parts of the country.

(d) Limiting the eligibility criterion to only educational institutions was the predominant reasons for the scheme not having found widespread acceptance. In spite of the general willingness to set up CRS on their part, these institutions found it difficult to raise the necessary financial resources both for establishing the facility and running it. Keeping this in view, the Government has now liberalised the policy in December 2006 and decided to grant permission for setting up community radio stations to 'Non-profit' organizations viz. Civil Society & Voluntary Organizations, State Agricultural Universities, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) institutions, Krishi Vigyan Kendras, Registered Societies and Autonomous Bodies and Public Trusts registered under Societies Act or any other such Act relevant for the purpose in addition to the educational institutions, subject to fulfillment of the eligibility conditions. The guidelines are available on this Ministry's website: www.mib.nic.in. However, some of the salient features of the policy are placed at Annexure. The Statement enclosed.

Statement

Salient Features of New Policy

- * Civil society and voluntary organisations, State Agriculture Universities (SAUs), ICAR institutions, Krishi Vigyan Kendras, Registered Societies and Autonomous Bodies and Public Trusts registered under Societies Act or any other such act relevant for the purpose, in addition to educational institutions. Registration at the time of application should at least the three years old.
- * License period 5 years against three years in the previous policy.
- * Universities, Deemed Universities and Government run educational institutions will have a single window clearance by putting up cases before an inter-ministerial committee chaired by Secretary (I&B) for approval. No separate clearance from MHA & MHRD shall be necessary. Once the WPC Wing of the Ministry

of Communication & IT earmarks a frequency at the place requested by the institution, a Letter of Intent (LOI) shall be issued.

- *In case of all other applicants, including private educational institutions, LOI shall be issued subject to receiving clearance from Ministries of Home Affairs, Defence & HRD (in case of private educational institutions) and frequency allocation by WPC wing of Ministry of Communication & IT.
- * CRS shall be expected to cover a range of 5-10 km. For this, a transmitter having maximum Effective Radiated Power (ERP) of 100 W would be adequate.

Bank guarantee reduced to Rs. 25,000/- from the existing Rs. 50,000/-
- * Applicants eligible to seek funding from multilateral aid agencies after FCRA clearance from MHA.
- * Limited advertising and announcements relating to local events, local business and services and employment opportunities restricted to 5 (Five) minutes per hour of broadcast. Transmission of sponsored programmes shall not be permitted except programmes sponsored by Central & State Government and other organisations to broadcast public interest information.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Atomic energy plant in Madhya Pradesh

†2414. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Madhya Pradesh has submitted a proposal for atomic power house of 2000 MW;

(b) if so, by when the said proposal would be approved; and

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